GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2087
ANSWERED ON:29.07.2002
POLICY ON LAND USE
BAL KRISHNA CHAUHAN

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any policy with regard to land use in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) the area of agricultural land being used for non-agricultural activities all over the country, State-wise;

(d) the average per capita area of agricultural land in the country;

(e) whether the average per capita area has been declining for the past several years; and

(f) if so, the remedial steps being taken by the Government to check the same?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV)

(a)&(b): Land is a State Subject.However, a 19 points National Land Use PolicyOutline has been circulated by the Government of India to the State Governments for their guidance.

(c): As per available estimate the area under Non-agricultural uses was 22.81 million ha. in the year 1998-99.

(d)&(e): The average per capita area of agricultural land is 0.14 ha. and it has been declining for the past several years.

(f): National Agriculture Policy launched during the year 2000 lays emphasis on sustainable use of land resources.

In the National Land Use Policy Outline the States have been advised againstndiscriminate diversion of agricultural land to non-agricultural uses. In addition the Ministry of Rural Development is implementing the integrated Wasteland Development Project.